

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 01754 310346Z

16

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

----- 031203

R 302345Z MAR 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4918

S E C R E T USNATO 1754

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, PARM

SUBJECT: MBFR: US BRIEFINGS AND COUNCIL DISCUSSION MARCH 29 ON THE
SECRETARY'S TALKS IN MOSCOW

FOR AMBASSADOR RESOR FROM RUMSFELD

I THINK YOU WILL BE INTERESTED IN THE FOLLOWING REPORT OF THE MBFR
PORTION OF THE US BRIEFING AND COUNCIL DISCUSSION MARCH 29 ON THE
SECRETARY'S RECENT TALKS IN MOSCOW:

BEGIN SUMMARY: COUNSELOR SONNENFELDT AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY
HARTMAN CONSULTED WITH ALLIES IN RESTRICTED NAC SESSION MARCH
29 ABOUT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S DISCUSSION WITH SOVIET LEADERS
IN MOSCOW, REVIEWING SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS ITEM BY ITEM.
ON MBFR, US REPS REPORTED THAT IN MOSCOW TALKS BOTH SIDES HAD
REPEATED PREVIOUS POSITIONS, WITH SOVIETS INSISTING ON INCLUSION
OF NON-US/NON-SOVIET FORCES IN FIRST STAGE. END SUMMARY.

1. ACTING SYG PANSA RECALLED THAT US HAD ALREADY BRIEFED
NAC ON OBJECTIVES OF VISIT TO MOSCOW, AND SAID MEMBERS APPRE-
CIATED FACT THAT SECRETARY WAS SENDING HIS CLOSE AIDES BACK SO
PROMPTLY TO INFORM NAC OF RESULTS.

2. IN GENERAL INTRODUCTORY REMARKS, SONNENFELDT SAID RECORDS OF
TALKS WITH SOVIETS WILL HAVE TO BE FULLY ANALYZED TO INSURE THAT
ALL NUANCES HAVE BEEN CAUGHT, AND THAT CONTEXT IS FULLY UNDER-
SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 01754 310346Z

STOOD. THUS, US PERCEPTIONS ARE "SOMEWHAT PRELIMINARY."
SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS NOT YET SEEN THE PRESIDENT, ALTHOUGH HE
HAS BEEN REPORTING TO HIM BY TELEGRAM EACH DAY. IN A SENSE,
ALLIES WERE GETTING AN ADVANCE REPORT; IF THERE WAS ANYTHING
TO ADD LATER, WE WOULD OF COURSE DO SO.

3. AS EXPLAINED AT EARLY MARCH PREVIEW OF TRIP; SONNENFELDT SAID TALKS WERE PREPARATORY, AND WERE NOT INTENDED TO BE CONCLUSIVE; THIS WAS STANDARD PROCEDURE IN PREPARING FOR SUMMIT MEETINGS. US SIDE HAD HAD 20 HOURS WITH GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV, WHO WAS GENERALLY ACCOMPANIED BY AIDES MENTIONED IN COMMUNIQUE. TALKS GENERALLY WERE MORE DISCIPLINED AND SYSTEMATIC THAN IN THE PAST. THERE WAS ONLY ONE MAJOR DEVIATION FROM SCHEDULE, ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, WHEN SOVIETS HAD CALLED POLITBURO MEETING WHEN MARSHALL GRECHKO HAD RETURNED PREMATURELY FROM VISIT TO IRAQ. SUCH CHANGES IN SCHEDULE WERE NOT UNUSUAL, HOWEVER. IT HAD BEEN INTENDED THAT SOME OF THE MEETINGS WOULD BE HELD AT POLITBURO HUNTING LODGE. INSTEAD MEETINGS WERE HELD IN KREMLIN, EVIDENTLY BECAUSE OF INCONVENIENCES CAUSED BY RUSSIAN WEATHER.

4. SONNENFELDT NOTED THAT PERMREPS HAD RECEIVED COPIES OF THE MOSCOW COMMUNIQUE. IT HAD BEEN DIFFICULT TO ENGAGE BREZHNEV IN ANY SUSTAINED DISCUSSION ON MBFR. SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD URGED BREZHNEV TO SERIOUSLY CONSIDER WESTERN PROPOSALS CALLING FOR INITIAL US-SOVIET CUTS AS A FIRST STEP. BREZHNEV HAD SAID THAT THE FORCES OF ALL MBFR PARTICIPANTS MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE FIRST PHASE WHICH MUST ALSO INCLUDE ARMAMENTS. AFTER FURTHER EXCHANGE ON THIS BASIS, BREZHNEV SAID THAT THE VIENNA TALKS SHOULD CONTINUE; HE SAID AN IMPULSE FROM HIGHER POLITICAL LEVELS MIGHT BE NECESSARY, BUT HE WAS NOT SPECIFIC ABOUT THIS. BREZHNEV HAD ALSO MADE A SOMEWHAT ELLIPTICAL COMMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT THE EFFORTS TO DRAFT EC-US AND NATO DECLARATIONS WERE SOMEHOW INCONSISTENT WITH THE MBFR TALKS.

5. DE STAERCKE ASKED FOR THE US APPRECIATION OF THE SOVIET POSITION ON MBFR.

6. SONNENFELDT SAID THAT HE WAS NOT PREPARED TO MAKE ANY DEFINITIVE EVALUATION OF THE SOVIET POSITION ON THE BASIS OF THESE TALKS. IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT THE SOVIETS ARE WAITING TO SEE IF CSCE MOVES ALONG MORE BRISKLY. RUMSFELD

SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 01754 310346Z

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 11 JUN 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATO01754
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740381/abbryubp.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 MAR 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <06 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR: US BRIEFINGS AND NAC DISCUSSION MARCH 29 ON
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, PARM
To: VIENNA INFO STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005